

even increased. And, indeed, two-thirds of the Republicans wanted support maintained and increased. I hope my Republican colleagues will listen to the public and support this vital resource.

#### HONORING CORPORAL JONATHAN W. TAYLOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. NUGENT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of Corporal Jonathan W. Taylor.

Four years to the day of his graduation from boot camp, Corporal Taylor died on February 22, 2011. At the age of 23, he bravely gave his life while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

Growing up, Corporal Taylor always knew that he wanted to be a United States Marine. As a student at Lecanto High School, he was a member of the JROTC program. He was an active member of the Sea Cadet Program out of Yankeetown.

In October 2007, Corporal Taylor was deployed on his first combat tour in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Following that tour, he was deployed to support Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan three separate times. While his unit was not deployed during his second-to-last tour, Corporal Taylor bravely volunteered to go back to Afghanistan to continue the fight with his Marines.

Corporal Taylor was laid to rest today with honors in Arlington National Cemetery. Over his career, his awards included the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the NATO Medal-ISAF Afghanistan, and the Purple Heart.

Now beside his fellow brothers in uniform, his parents, Mark and Debbie, have said they are proud to have seen their son off on his last and final deployment, his final tour of duty.

Corporal Taylor courageously made the ultimate sacrifice for his Marines and his fellow Americans. As a country, as a Nation, we owe our fallen heroes and their families a debt that can never be repaid. It is our duty to always remember that these sacrifices were made on behalf of all Americans, and that our brave young men and women in uniform are clear examples of what makes this Nation so great.

Today, I am humbled to have the opportunity to introduce this House to a true American hero. Corporal Jonathan W. Taylor, God bless you, and God bless your service to this Nation.

#### OPPOSE THE U.S.-KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the proposed South Korea trade deal is the

largest NAFTA-style trade agreement proposed in 15 years. Some people in Washington, including President Obama, support this agreement. Congress should not. Most importantly, this "NAFTA"-Korea deal will result in more job loss across countless communities in our country.

The U.S. International Trade Commission studied this agreement and determined that it will be a net job loser for our country, just like the NAFTA deal was, just like the China deal was, just like all the failed nonreciprocal trade deals our Nation has negotiated over the last 25 years. Yes, a handful of companies will come out ahead, and they have a lot of power in Washington, but, as a whole, our country loses.

We have heard a lot about deficits lately. This deal with the Koreans will only put us deeper in the hole. Why would Congress do this again to the American people and to the American economy? Last year, the United States ran up another half-trillion-dollar trade deficit with the world, and this past quarter, one of the largest in history. Both American and Korean estimates predict that this deal will only add to our deficit.

These NAFTA-type trade deals translate into net job loss. Even the President doesn't claim that the deal will create new jobs. That is because it won't. In fact, it will cost jobs.

America needs trade reciprocity. We need balance, at a minimum, where our exports balance our imports and more hopefully exceed our imports. We need to make goods in America again, not outsource more jobs. It is obvious to everyone we have a job crisis in America. Across our economy, the real rate of unemployment and underemployment is over 17 percent.

This agreement, again, will negatively impact employment. In my district alone, the agreement threatens thousands of jobs. Why would America do this again to our people? More outsourcing, more job loss.

My district is at the center of the automotive sector, and our companies supply manufacturers from Alabama to Detroit to New Jersey to California. This deal is bad for the entire U.S. automotive sector, yes, the entire automotive sector.

In December, the administration negotiated with the Korean government a supplemental agreement on the automotive sector, and this side deal was supposed to ensure fairness for our auto companies. But it simply leaves too many unresolved concerns still on the table. And it doesn't provide reciprocity. There is no threshold measure that if we take half a million Korean cars, which we already do, and they only take 6,000 of ours, which is what is going on right now, that they have any requirement at all to actually increase imports. We ought to fix what is wrong with the existing system, rather than trade away more of our economic substance.

There is also a strange logic that we somehow level the playing field by allowing the South Korean government to subject our cars to additional regulations within 4 year. And importantly, there is no threshold measure that we actually are balancing the huge trade deficit we already have with that nation.

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There's another loophole. The cars don't really have to be made in South Korea. Nearly two-thirds of the actual content can come from, guess where? Communist China and other countries that are relentlessly engaged in predatory and illegal trading practices is not a prescription for liberty.

The automotive sector isn't the only industry that is at risk. Multiple sectors will be impacted, including textiles, electronics, and metal products. And that's just in manufacturing. Beef producers better pay attention because they're going to lose under this deal as well.

I look forward to the day when this President, or any President, submits a trade agreement that will actually create new employment opportunities across our country. We surely need the jobs. Yes, trade can help fuel economic growth, but we need agreements that yield reciprocity and put America on a level trade playing field. NAFTA-styled Korean free trade agreements simply don't meet that test. This deal is over 400 pages long—and that's without the annexes to the agreement. The American people should read it. And so should Congress.

America needs jobs here at home, not more job outsourcing. And surely not more trade deficits. We need reciprocity, and it would be the first time in a quarter century. That should be our target, not more job loss in America.

#### HONORING MAYOR JOSEPH ESQUIVEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Joseph Esquivel for his 39 years of public service to the people of Lakewood, California. Joe began his service to Lakewood as a member of the Lakewood Recreation and Community Services Commission in 1972; and in 1990, he began the first of his five terms on the Lakewood City Council. After 21 productive years of service on the council, Joe is retiring from public service to spend more quality time with his family.

Joe and his wife, Pat, have called Lakewood home since 1963, raising three wonderful children and in the process becoming proud grandparents and great grandparents. As an active leader in his community, Joe had a hand in the founding of many local organizations such as the Lakewood

Youth Hall of Fame. Joe continues to be a member of the Hall of Fame Board of Electors, which is charged with recognizing Lakewood's young high school and collegiate standout athletes.

Throughout his time on the City Council and as Mayor, Joe made it his priority to ensure that Lakewood remains a safe, family friendly, and a thriving community. Joe was instrumental in bringing together the resources needed to make Lakewood's state-of-art Sheriff's Station a reality and was integral in developing several crime prevention programs that have made our community safer.

Over the past two decades, Joe has worked tirelessly to make certain Lakewood operates on firm financial footing and never outside of its fiscal means. While the struggling economy has impacted many cities throughout southern California, Lakewood has managed to maintain funding for all city services and capital improvement projects. In addition, Lakewood has managed to be a leading destination for businesses and new business development.

Joe's involvement in public service reaches far beyond the confines of the City's Council Chamber. Joe is a dedicated member of Lakewood's Rotary Club, having served for many years as the coordinator of the Rotary Club's annual Project Shepherd holiday assistance program for families in need. Under his leadership, Project Shepherd aided hundreds of families each year with the help of volunteers of all ages from Lakewood schools, churches, and youth organizations. He was named Rotarian of the Year in 1995. One of his joys as a Lakewood resident was serving as a volunteer coach of 8- and 9-year-old youngsters in basketball and football at Bolivar Park. He received the Mayor's Award for 11 consecutive seasons of volunteer coaching.

He has held various leadership positions, including president of the California Contract Cities Association, president of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District, and president of the Private Industry Council of Southeast Los Angeles County. Joe sits on the Lakewood Regional Medical Center and Lakewood Weingart Family YMCA Board of Directors. As a Navy veteran, Joe has been a proud member of American Legion Post 496 for the past 19 years.

From one public servant to another, I praise Mayor Joseph Esquivel for his service and dedication to the city of Lakewood and to the community. Lakewood would not be the community it is today without him. I want to thank him for his years of service and wish him the best of luck as he moves forward in new endeavors.

#### EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI THAT HIT JAPAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, 4 days ago, a huge earthquake and tsunami hit Japan. I was sort of surprised last night when we came in and there was no resolution recognizing the problems of the Japanese people and the terror and the difficulties they are dealing with at this time. So I want to come today to rise in support of them as they cope with this tremendous tragedy and the challenges that both the earthquake and the tsunami have created for them.

For the last 10 years or so, I have been the chair of the Japanese American exchange between the Diet and the Congress, and I've gotten to know many Japanese members of the Diet very well. I was a member of this commission some years ago when Kobe had a huge earthquake and devastation that took a hundred billion dollars to recover from.

So I was sort of brought up short by what happened when I saw it on television, and thought of my friends. And I immediately started trying to call them. I couldn't find them. I only this morning got in touch with a friend of mine named Matsuda San. We've been friends for a long time. In fact, I have been to his home a very few miles from Sendai City, where the earthquake—the center of this whole event was. He's well. His family is well. He said his friends are also safe and his house is still standing. So for many people, they have escaped the terror of this. But there are thousands and thousands of people who are struggling with this.

The Japanese people have shown a resilience that is amazing. When the government said there's going to be rolling blackouts in Tokyo, we need to conserve electricity, the Japanese conserved electricity so quickly that they didn't have the rolling blackouts. That's how they came together in the interest of the common good in Japan.

Washington State, where I come from, has the third largest Japanese population in the United States. Only California and Hawaii have more. As I said, we have a sister city with Kobe. When that hit, it was shock for everyone in Seattle because we also live on the ring of fire around the Pacific Ocean that we've seen strike so recently not only in Japan, but in New Zealand. Sometimes you can't believe that you live in a place like that; you know it can happen any time, but you still go on with your life, sort of denying that it's real.

After the Japanese earthquake in Kobe some years ago, there was a lot of criticism of the government: you didn't plan enough. Well, they have been planning for this for the last 10 years. But nobody can plan for an 8.9 Richter scale earthquake. That's just too much. I think that it is important to remember the Japanese are not just good allies. They're good friends. To many of us, they are brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers. Some of them are among my very best friends.

This tragedy, as it continues to unfold, just think of what life is like for

those people who are alive and under the rubble, or the homeless. Imagine, you have a life; it's a nice life. You're working, going to school, you're kids are growing up. And, suddenly, you have no food, no heat, no water, and you're in the freezing cold.

The United States has responded. We have had military bases in Japan for a long time. Luckily, they were close by so they could immediately move some of the aircraft carriers and other ships in to deliver relief aid. It is at that time when you realize—in fact, their government has actually realized—that fighting about some of the things politically they fight about are not so important. What is really important is the basics of life being provided to everyone in the country.

This is a national disaster that has been complicated by another factor that we have to consider in the United States, and that's the whole question of nuclear power and what happens to nuclear power plants. We have nuclear power plants in this country that are sitting near earthquake zones. So this is not something that we can say, Well, that's over there in Japan; that's 9,000 miles and 12 hours away.

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That is, in fact, very near to us here in this country. For the Japanese, the threat of nuclear contamination, of radiation, is a special horror because they suffered in Hiroshima and Nagasaki—the only use of nuclear weapons—and the fallout that followed that. Today, millions of Japanese are still trying to absorb what they are seeing and are valiantly fighting to control the damage.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the Japanese people.

#### THE BULLYING OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: AN EPIDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an epidemic that is flying too far under the radar: the bullying of children with special needs.

Bullying has gotten a fair amount of attention in recent years. Our Nation was shocked by the story of Tyler Clementi, a gay Rutgers student who jumped off the George Washington Bridge after being bullied by his peers. Earlier this month, Dateline NBC ran a special called "My Kid Would Never Bully." In it, hidden cameras were used so parents could watch their children react to several different bullying situations set up by Dateline. The results were not great. Last week, the President and the First Lady held a White House conference on bullying.

What we haven't focused on is who gets bullied the most. You might be surprised by this: It's children with special needs. In fact, two times as many children with special needs are